

THE AMERICAN

JOURNAL OF LITERATURE, SCIENCE, THE ARTS, AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

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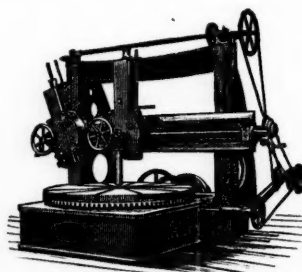
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VOL. X.—NO 251.

PHILADELPHIA, SATURDAY, MAY 30, 1885.

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REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

THE Administration has blundered so badly in its selection of our foreign ministers that the public was not much surprised at being told that Mr. Lothrop of Michigan, assigned to Russia, was another black sheep. And certainly the charge brought against him was a very serious one. In a suit conducted thirty years ago, he had recovered the whole amount of a claim, of which a good slice had already been paid. The New York Court of Claims, before which the case went on appeal, was not sparing of its censure, and Mr. Lothrop did not escape. But both then and now Mr. Lothrop declared that he knew nothing of the earlier half of the transaction. He took the case in good faith, assuming that the story told him by his client was trustworthy. The counsel on the other side seem to have been as ill informed as he was, since they allowed the case to be prosecuted to the end without presenting any evidence that a part had been paid. It was only when a verdict had been given for the whole amount that the defence set up this plea.

This is a situation into which the most honorable man might be brought, and until there is some positive evidence to impeach Mr. Lothrop's exculpation of his conduct, the public will be justified in believing him all right.

An extraordinary appointment is that which the Attorney-General has made as his assistant in the Interior Department, to succeed Mr. McCammon. The new man is a Mr. Zachariah Montgomery, of California, who seems to be scarcely suitable for American citizenship, to say nothing of the occupancy of a high place in the American government. His "fad" is opposition to public schools, and he has made himself prominent in the State where he has been living by the most violent form of attack upon them, in public speeches, and by the publication of a periodical devoted to the subject. As the National Bureau of Education is part of the Interior Department, perhaps Mr. Garland thought this sort of a person especially suitable to oversee that Department's legal interests!

MR. R. M. T. HUNTER becomes collector at Tappahannock, with a salary of six hundred dollars. In 1861, Mr. Hunter led the Democrats in the national Senate. His opposition to the Morrill tariff was the ablest of any. He has even been elevated to the rank of a source of contemporary history by our Free Traders. One of his speeches against that tariff charges it with being the outcome of a dicker between the Republicans and the State of Pennsylvania. This fiction the Sumner-Taussig group of historians have taken up as a good stick to beat Protection with. After such services the Democracy might have done better for Mr. Hunter, who must now be a man in advanced years. We hope the Senate will confirm him.

MR. SAMUEL J. RANDALL seems to have been hesitating for some time as to whether the constituency behind him or the political prospects before him were worth the more. He has not been embarrassed in making his choice by any burden of political principles. Like Mr. Hosea Biglow's Democratic politician of forty years ago, he seems to feel that—

A marvellous Providence fashioned us hollow
O'purpose that we might our principles swallow,
It kin hold any quantity on them, the belly can,
And bring them up ready for use, like the pelican.

Mr. Randall has posed for years as a Protectionist. He could not be sent to Congress from any district in this state, if he were anything else. But Mr. Randall is on the threshold of great pos-

sibilities. The speakership now, the presidency four years hence, dawn upon the enchanted vision of the favorite son of the Administration. Why may he not play Van Buren to Mr. Cleveland's Jackson? There is one difficulty. The party in the main talks revenue reform, meaning free trade, or something as near to that as it can get. Well, then, Mr. Randall will be a revenue reformer. Not as a bid for the presidency; oh dear no! He is in favor of Mr. Cleveland's renomination in 1888. But the candidacy for the speakership next December will be helped by it, and as for 1888, that will keep.

Those who have watched Mr. Randall's political tergiversations in the past will not be surprised at this. The compact by which he secured his elevation to the speakership before, was not one that any man who believed in a protective tariff would have made. His attempt to secure the vote of the Pennsylvania Democrats for Mr. Fernando Wood's tariff bill has not been forgotten as a part of his record as Speaker. The truth is that any and every party may make up its mind to have Mr. Randall's services for just so long as it suits his interests and his ambition, and to dispense with these services when it pays him better to take them to another market.

It is said that the statesmen of Kentucky are sorer over the conduct of this administration than those of any other State. It is true that no Cameron man has been removed from office in Pennsylvania. But Mr. Randall and his political friends seem to bear this with much more than equanimity. There is something mysterious about the depth of their calm, which Mr. Cameron probably could explain, and which the average Republican would like to penetrate.

THE commercial convention held at Atlanta to discuss the cause and cure of hard times seems to have been a body of very limited information. It suggested three remedies—two good and one bad—all of which relate exclusively to the situation in this country alone. It urged, as do we, that the coinage of silver dollars be suspended, and a national bankrupt law be passed. Excellent measures both, but both already in full force in countries which are having harder times than we. England has had a very good bankrupt law for several years, and has not had silver as a legal tender since 1819. Yet England would be glad to be lifted to the level of our business depression. So *The Spectator* said, some years ago, that what America was calling hard times would be thought very fair times in Europe.

The same objection applies to the third suggestion of the convention. It asked for the negotiation of reciprocity treaties with other nations. It evidently entertained the idea that a freer access to other markets would be secured in this way, and that this would relieve us of our over-production. But England has the freest access to those markets, and is suffering more from over-production than we. Her exports constantly decline in value, and her imports rise. Her loss in the four months ending with April was at the rate of £22,000,000 a year, from a total export of £200,000,000 a year. Besides this, all the reciprocity treaties we could find parchment for would add nothing to our power of export, unless we had ships to carry the goods. We now buy of our neighbors twice as much as we sell them, just because we have almost no merchant marine. Under reciprocity treaties, without shipping, we might increase our purchases, but we would add nothing to our sales. And on this matter of the revival of our shipping, the Convention was silent!

THE Bartholdi statue is on the way to America, and yet there is no pedestal to receive it. The city of New York is passing

'round the hat to raise the money needed for the ornamentation of their harbor, but the prospects of a collection are not good. The statue may now be said to be traveling under false pretences. It is described as "a gift of good will from the French people to the American people." It is nothing of the sort. It is a gift from a group of Parisians to the city of New York. Not a word was heard of "the American people" in the transaction, until it was found that New York begrudged the money for the building of the pedestal. Then a New York President, a New York Secretary of State, and a New York Minister to Paris agreed to clothe the gift with a quasi-national character. Gifts to the American people are accepted by Congress, and Congress has steadily ignored the statue, from the start.

THE right to hold meetings in the open air even in our cities, is one of those traditions which go back to the roots of the English race. Out of such meetings grow our whole system of jurisprudence and of politics. To ask our fellow citizens to meet under a roof, even to hear a man speechify or preach, is a modern innovation. But the innovation has become so well established, that the old right seems likely to be sacrificed. It is coming to be an accepted principle that religious services are in some sense disorderly, unless they are held indoors. This new assumption is especially dangerous to society. A Christian church which would be content to confine its ministrations within the walls of sacred edifices, would commit suicide. All the great aggressive movements for the christianizing of the world, from the days of the Apostles, have been in the open air. There the great revivalists of the Middle Ages—Francis of Assisi, Berthold of Regensburg, Vincens Ferrer, Anthony of Padua—preached to the people. Luther's Reformation was proclaimed in the market-places before it found its way into the churches. George Fox found an audience on the streets and under the shadow of the hay-ricks. Whitfield, Wesley, and Rowland Hill, preached to audiences too great and miscellaneous for any church to hold them. The great upstirrings of religious feeling in America in 1804, 1819, and 1837, were in connection with open air meetings. That of 1857 fell into the hands of business men, who showed their prejudices and set bounds to its efficiency by putting it under roof.

The question of the right to preach on Boston Common has been raised, and we are glad to see that the venerable Dr. A. J. Gordon, of the Baptist church, stands by the right. As he well says, not more than one-sixth of the people of Boston go to church. The need to dress in a certain style deters most of them. Their infamiliarity with church ways is an obstacle to others. If the Christian church in Boston is to be bounded by the brick and mortar erected for its use, then Christianity in Boston will become a cabinet curiosity, for the pleasure of the rich, rather than a power in society. And if there is any spot on this continent which might be claimed as the right place to hold a public meeting for any lawful use, it is the common land of a New England town. In old England no one would question the right. Is America less of a free country, or has "Hire a hall" become the eleventh commandment with us?

WHAT we have said in an article elsewhere of a disposition on the part of the managers of the Presbyterian General Assembly to evade questions of principle, finds an illustration in the disposal made of the question of the validity of Roman Catholic baptism. The old and long-maintained tradition of the Presbyterian and of all the Protestant churches, is to recognize the validity of both baptism and ordination by Roman Catholic authority. The charge of being an "Anabaptist" would have been repelled with indignation by the churches of the Reformation, and the British churches, like those on the continent, all take this ground. But in America a rabid type of Protestantism has sprung up within forty years past, which seeks to break with this tradition. The two tendencies locked horns in the Assembly at Cincinnati, Dr. Schaff, of the Union Theological Seminary, defending the tolerant position,

while, as usual, a lay elder represented the extremists. But by a little management the question was kept from coming to a vote. The matter was referred to the church sessions, with the intimation to settle it as they pleased, and keep it out of the Assembly.

THE progress of the good work of sending the saints of Utah to jail for breaking the laws of the United States, goes on so vigorously that the leaders of the Mormon church know not which way to turn. They have sent a deputation to the President to ask the equal administration of law and justice to all the residents of the Territory. This is exactly what they should not have asked. Law and justice are just what they do not want, but the chance to evade both. The country is quite ready to punish any Gentile polygamist in Utah, if the saints will point them out and supply the evidence needed for conviction. But even Mr. Cleveland could place no permanent obstacle to the national purpose to suppress the practice of polygamy in every part of the country which remains directly under national rule. And nothing would be more certain to weaken his administration than the attempt to do so.

GOVERNOR HILL, of New York, has vetoed the Census bill passed by the Legislature of that State, at the recent special session. He apparently does not intend, however, to call the Legislature again. If he proves no more successful in securing public approval by his policy of antagonizing the Legislature than the Governor of this State was two years ago, his efforts are hardly a subject for congratulation.

THE amended charter for Philadelphia, known as the "Bullitt Bill," passed the House of Representatives at Harrisburg on Tuesday and has gone to the Governor. The interesting feature about this measure in its later history was the completeness with which the attempt to make it take effect at once, instead of allowing a Mayor's election to intervene, "fizzled out," after being resolutely attacked by a body of citizens acting together, regardless of party lines. The bill had been persistently condemned for years by every sort of political jobbers, (as well as by some sincere opponents on principle, who thought it concentrated power excessively), but it was suddenly seized upon at Harrisburg a few weeks ago by a clique who proposed to turn it to good account by passing it and putting it into operation at once, thus giving the present Mayor a number of important appointments and the control of a large circle of "patronage." The scheme was a bold one, but it was neatly and completely beaten, and on the final vote in the House, the measure having been amended so that it should take effect in 1887, the yeas were 146 and the nays only 8. It was a signal instance of the well directed force of public opinion.

THIS amendment of the city charter ought to be of very great use to the city. It is the outcome of the inquiry pursued for some time by the Commission on Municipal Government, which Governor Hartranft appointed about nine years ago. The Commission framed a bill, which was subsequently presented to the Legislature, at the sessions of 1879, 1881 and 1883, and which now has been adopted by an overwhelming vote. It will systematize and re-arrange the administration of the city, abolishing some departments, and grouping others under one chief, and giving the Mayor the power of nominating the heads of all, instead of having them chosen, as now, by the City Councils. Everything will depend, however, on securing a good Mayor at the election in February, 1887.

THE candidacy of Colonel Quay for State Treasurer shows itself as having vitality. Delegates have been instructed for him in Lawrence, Indiana, Armstrong, and Snyder counties. If other candidates are to be named, it is time they were heard from.

THE English Cabinet is said, upon better authority than usual, to be not at one with itself as regards the treatment of Ireland.

The Radicals, with whom Mr. Gladstone sympathizes, and whom Mr. Chamberlain represents, desire an entire cessation of coercion, and the restoration of the rule of law in Ireland. The Whigs, led by Lord Hartington, and supported by Earl Spencer, the Viceroy, favor the continuance of the present law. Mr. Gladstone has tried to compromise the matter in his usual fashion. He hopes to pacify Ireland by a combination of kicks and half-pence. He will have coercion re-enacted in a milder form, with the introduction of a land purchase bill now, and the promise of a local government bill at the next session. This as a matter of course pleases neither party. The Radicals are especially indignant that coercion is to be re-enacted before anything else is done, and Mr. John Morley, who is no extremist on this question, proposes to take the sense of the House on the question whether coercion should not be abandoned altogether. Strangely enough, he has the support of Lord Randolph Churchill and the Tories of his extreme faction. And it is not impossible that Radicals, Home Rulers and Tories together may muster a majority against the bill. It is certain that there will be more than the Home Rulers will contribute to obstruct the bill on its passage.

The Irish members refuse to regard either of Mr. Gladstone's offers of Irish legislation as concessions to themselves or to their constituents. In their view, the land-purchase bill is a landlord's measure to secure to the present owners more for their Irish estates than they ever will obtain in any other way, while the local government bill is but an attempt to stave off the demand for an Irish parliament. They see no reason in either to desist from their wholesale antagonism to the English ministry.

As the election of a new Parliament is to be held in November, the direction given to the Irish vote in the English cities is a matter of great importance to the Liberals, and fear of Irish opposition will rally votes against coercion.

The significance of our action in the matter of the Isthmus of Panama is recognized in Europe, and all the more readily because the English are too much occupied with their own troubles to have any fingers to spare for this pie. When the troubles began, our friend *The Spectator* was good enough to propose a joint intervention of European and American powers to maintain the neutrality of the Isthmus. It now sings quite another song, recognizing that the day for all such meddling is over, even as regards the proposed canal. It says that our arrangement with the Colombian government establishes "something very like American sovereignty over the route of the Panama canal. This is a great change; but we do not know why Europe should object. It was inevitable that some arrangement should be made between the world in general and the only substantive power on the American continent. Nobody could prevent the United States being the most important factor in the ultimate settlement which must make the Panama Canal an arm of the sea, and she may just as well assume openly the liabilities of that position." It is but three years since English diplomats, with the full support of the English newspapers, were trying to keep the United States from taking just this position. The contention was that an agreement made with us when we were a second-rate power must continue to define our position in the affairs of this continent, and give the United Kingdom equal rank with us. Of that we have seen an end, and the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty is torn up.

TURKEY declines England's proposal that she should occupy the Soudan.—Poundmaker, the Northwestern Indian chief, has surrendered unconditionally to the Canadian authorities.—The Pantheon, in Paris, by decree of the Government, will be restored to its original use as a burial place for great men, and Victor Hugo's remains are to be placed there, on Monday next. Cardinal Guibert, and other clericals of Paris, have protested against this "desecration."—The delay in the canvass of the returns of the Chicago municipal election—by means of which Mayor Harrison and the other officials are still hanging on—has excited public in-

dignation, and a mass meeting of citizens will be held to denounce it.—Serious Indian disturbances continue to be reported in New Mexico and Arizona, chiefly by Apaches. The U. S. troops are actively occupied in suppressing them.—The General Synod of the Lutheran church of the United States met on Thursday, at Harrisburg, Penna.—The iron-workers in the "Amalgamated Association," at Pittsburg, have offered to accept 10 per cent. reduction in wages, while the manufacturers have demanded more. A strike is anticipated, though it may be avoided.

VICTOR HUGO.

THE death of Victor Hugo deprives the continent of the greatest figure in the world of letters. Indeed, Europe has no other name that can be put beside his, except those of Robert Browning and Hendrik Ibsen. His was an intelligence cast in a gigantic mould. He walked like a colossus of the imagination among his contemporaries, and perpetually reminds us of his own grand figure, Napoleon lifting the sword Charlemagne had let fall, after it had lain eight centuries where no other hand could move it. His work often lacks delicacy of finish. It has not always the highest veracity. His attempts to reconstruct history—as in the case of Waterloo—would be amusing if they were not painful. His blunders and his anachronisms where he dealt with any but a French subject, were as absurd in themselves as he was obstinate in adhering to them. But after all allowance has been made, and all deductions subtracted, there remains enough in the man and his writings to call for his recognition as one of the greater gods of literature.

His life for seventy years was the story of France. He was still a boy at the restoration of the Bourbons, and a constitutional loyalist who believed in both Louis XVIII. and the Charter. It was as such that he made his first ventures in literature. Charles X. disillusioned him, and 1830 found him in the ranks of the revolt. He was the last survivor of that brilliant group of young geniuses who gave the daily newspaper of that time worth as literature and importance in politics. At the same time he was working in the cause of a literary revolt. The literary as well as the political traditions of the *Ancien Regime* were to be overthrown. Boileau and Racine were to be deposed from their dictatorship in French literature. His dramas were the barricade behind which the young Romantics of France fought the forces of the classical authorities. His victory was theirs also.

Victor Hugo accepted Louis Philippe and the Orleanist domination as something better than a necessity. He saw the best side of the King, who was his personal friend, and whose *bonhomie* he appreciated. But he shared in the growing discontent with Guizot and the *doctrinaire* statesmen who wrecked a dynasty. The Revolution of February found him as heartily in sympathy with it as that of July. He grieved for his friend the King, but he rejoiced with the people. In the stormy days which followed, down to the *coup d'etat* of December 1851, he was always on the popular side. The common man found a spokesman in the great poet, who had been legitimist and Orleanist, and who now was Republican to the core. He resisted the restrictions on universal suffrage, the expedition to Rome, and all the other blunders of the Republic, which gave Louis Napoleon his chance. He resisted the *coup d'etat* also, but escaped from France to put its infamies on record. Then came his two wonderful pamphlets,—the finest philippics in modern literature. His *Napoleon le Petit* in prose and *Les Chatiments* in verse consigned their victim to the scorn and laughter of the world. He writhed under the blows inflicted. The whole energies of his police were employed to prevent their introduction into and circulation in France. But all in vain, for the prohibition only made the French the more eager to get and read what their master hated to have named.

In his exile in the Channel Islands Hugo resumed his labors as a novelist. His *Notre Dame* already had shown his power in the field of imaginative prose. His *Travailleurs de Mer*, *Les Mis-*

erables, and *L'Homme qui rit* were to prove his capacity to be still more varied and wonderful than his sombre study of the middle ages had given the world reason to believe. *Les Misérables*, for the majority of readers, will remain his greatest as it is his most serious work. In it the passion of his sympathy with humanity finds its first adequate expression. Here the clue is given to all his later thought and much of his action. With the poor, the street waif, even the criminal, he has a genuine and deep sympathy. These are his brethren in misery, heirs of all the ages, children of a common Father. For Hugo's democracy had a theological foundation. He never yielded to the atheistic drift of thought, which has become so common among his Republican friends. In turning his back on the Church, he tried to turn his face to God. His faith in the future life he has gone to find, was a part of his social creed. "Death as the end of all" he thought a fitter creed for Dives, who fared sumptuously and clad himself in purple and fine linen, than for Lazarus at the gate. He believed that the outlook upon "a world of less friction than this" was the only safeguard against social chaos in this. Persuade Lazarus that there is no such world, and he will rush in and pitch Dives out of the window!

He was the more open to spiritual belief because he was so much a child at the core. Smaller and narrower men let the child die out of them as the years grow. He, like Wordsworth, found his earliest and his later ways "bound each to each in natural piety." He grew by taking on and not putting off,—by gains not by losses. This made him the poet of childhood in an eminent degree. The finest passages in his *Les Misérables* are given to Gavroche and the poor children cast on his care. The most striking chapter of his last novel is "Massacre of St. Bartholomew," in which three children demolish an old manuscript in the midst of *La Vendée*. The book of poetry by which he appeals to the human heart is *L'Art d'être Grand-Père*. There was no greater as there was no more beautiful side to his character. His relations to his children and his grandchildren rose to the level of the ideal. His sons—one of them Shakespeare's best French translator, both of them brilliant publicists—in the Democratic ranks were men after his own heart. The ties of father and sons were never more beautiful, and their home life was all that England thinks France ignorant of. It was more than an English home, for it was pervaded by great thoughts and generous enthusiasms, such as the Englishman eschews, and was characterized by a frank interplay of affection which would suffocate him.

France has lost her best and greatest son in losing Victor Hugo. French letters, rich in fancy but poor in imagination, has lost an imaginative writer of the first order. But humanity has not lost the great heart which beats in sympathy for all its miseries. That has but entered upon a fuller life, and taken up higher tasks, while "the emphasis of death makes perfect" such record as it left of its beatings.

THE NEW CONSULAR SERVICE.

IT is perfectly plain that under the new Administration the consular service is to suffer serious injury. It was a branch of the public service which had been greatly developed and improved. Mr. Evarts began in 1877 to select new men upon grounds of fitness, and to retain and promote them according to the evidence of their capacity. At no time in our history had we had abroad so competent and efficient a body of officers to represent our commercial interests, and except in the smaller places, where the compensation is pitifully small, and where it is the practice to appoint foreigners, resident merchants, etc., etc., as our representatives, we have had very good work done for the country. Such men as Gen. Merritt, at London, Mr. Packard, at Liverpool, Colonel Shaw, at Manchester, Mr. Walker, at Paris, Mr. Thomas Adamson, at Panama, have raised the service altogether above previous experience, and the consular reports sent out from the Department of State have had a value which has been generally acknowledged.

But Mr. Bayard's movements have been of a character to

break up completely this efficiency. The experienced men are being removed, to make places for men destitute of experience, and what is more, very ill qualified, in many cases, to learn the duties which they undertake. It is a curious commentary upon the principles of action which were formerly so much ascribed to the Senator from Delaware—by those unfamiliar with his political views—that this stroke at the efficiency of the public service, in the interest of mere partisan and personal "spoils," should have come from him as soon as he was seated in the Cabinet. It was a favorite idea with the trustful worshippers of Mr. Bayard's elevation of spirit that he of all men would do things, were he given executive power, in a lofty and unpartisan manner. But just the opposite of this appears, and the country, unfortunately, is to be the sufferer.

It has been perfectly plain for years past—and it was, indeed, this plainness of evidence upon which the Hayes Administration proceeded, in 1877—that if our commercial interests in foreign countries were to be developed, it must be by intelligent and systematic effort, and that one of the first steps of this programme must be to secure thoroughly competent consular officers. Their compensation, in the cases where it is inadequate, should be increased, the fee system should be entirely abolished, and there should be a jealous care to retain the men of ascertained ability. The lapse from this programme is the more lamentable because it occurs at so untimely a juncture. In the present depressed state of business, every increase of our sales abroad is so much toward relief and recovery, and that, in the light of all the country's recent knowledge, and of the well-defined reforms which it is everywhere agreed should be employed, the Administration should deliberately disregard the country's general interests in order to serve the purposes of an antiquated and narrow partisanship, is a spectacle over which our competitors may rejoice, but which is good cause for grief at home.

THE PRESBYTERIANS.

THE annual meeting of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian church in Cincinnati has not been the scene of discussions of extraordinary interest. There are no great or burning questions before it for settlement. The one which probably excited the most lively interest was the proposal to reduce the size of the Assembly by altering the basis of representation. Since the reunion of the old and new schools in 1869-70, the Assembly has become too unwieldy for the churches even of New York or Philadelphia to entertain it with comfort. For this reason it has met for several years at Saratoga, and quartered its members in the hotels, which are not crowded at this time of year. Nothing but the necessity to hold a session within the boundaries of the State of Kentucky, for the election of Professors in the Danville Theological Seminary, takes it to Cincinnati this year. One of its sessions will be held in Covington for the purpose, in order to reduce the annual expense of the meeting, and to enable the churches at the great centres to have the profit and pleasure of witnessing the sessions. This feature of itself is characteristic of the Presbyterian body. It is braced up by a system of strictly defined legal procedure, whose precedents go back for centuries to the past of the Kirk's history. As this body of laws originated in Scotland, it bears the stamp of Scottish law, and ultimately of the Roman (or Civil) law upon it. Modes of procedure which originated in the Roman courts before Justinian are observed in every presbytery and synod. Thus at the opening of a trial in any of these bodies, a libel (*libellus*) is presented as the indictment. The court requires the prosecution—without waiting for a challenge from the defence—to prove that it has taken all the regular steps up to that date. And if the prosecutor fails to make out his case, he is liable to a specified punishment for having brought an unwarranted accusation. The story of the Scotch trial in "The Heart of Midlothian," will remind the reader of some of these points.

On one point Presbyterian law has made an important contribution to our own constitutional procedure. At the close of the seventeenth century Dr. Barrie proposed in the Scotch General Assembly that no change should be made in the fundamental law of the church, without the consent of a majority of the local presbyteries. This Barrie Act as it was called, was meant to assimilate ecclesiastical procedure to the civil. It gave the church something like that curious system of local protest at the market-cross, by which the Scottish people put a check on legislation proposed by the national government. It was this which suggested the provision of our national constitution which refers amendments to the State legislature.

But the chief interest in Presbyterianism is not legal. It is the doctrinal interest. The church is theological *par excellence*. Its strong men have been its theologians, not its historians nor its devotional writers, nor even its pulpit orators. It stands for that perennial interest in the deep problems of human existence and of man's relation to the divine. Fifteen years ago, at the reunion of old and new school, there was a disposition to ignore this fact, as the safest way to hold the two bodies together. For the future Presbyterianism was to be brotherly love diluted with ecclesiastical machinery. But it would not work. A Presbyterian church which had not "sound" doctrinal teaching as its reason for existence, would be a contradiction in terms. As a matter of facts questions of this kind thrust themselves to the front in spite of the church politicians.

Heretics like David Swing and John Miller arose, mostly coming from the old school Church, who proved that the mooting of theological topics was not to be kept down. And even in the highly conservative church of the South, which regards the Northern church as off color in its orthodoxy, the evolution question reopened the flood-gates of theological controversy.

That there will be more of such discussion instead of less, in the early future, may be predicted safely. The intellectual forces of the nineteenth century have been at work upon the minds of the younger men, and the evolution question is not the only one on which they are swinging away from the old moorings. What has been taking place among the Congregationalists of New England, is pretty sure to occur in the cognate church. The new lines of separation will not coincide with the old, nor will the questions be the same as led to the divisions of 1837. Nor will there be any likelihood of a fresh division. But as long as the mind of man continues what it is, the old and the new, the conservative and the progressive forces of the intellectual world, will be arrayed for peaceful or warlike conflict.

WEEKLY NOTES.

NEW YORK has done well to lay a prohibition on the farther erection of lofty buildings in that city. The law just passed fixes 80 feet as the maximum height allowed on the widest streets, and a proportionally greater restriction on streets less than 60 feet wide. It is true that there is no upward limit to the ownership of real estate, but true also that there must be some regulation of its exercise. Every high building affects the passage of air currents, and otherwise touches upon the welfare and comfort of the general public, besides being a source of especial danger to those who live in it. And as New York has rapid transit there is no reason for the continuance of the pressure of population on the lower districts of the city. The removals at the beginning of this month were of a character to show how much the elevated roads are effecting in this regard. The great drift of population was found to be to the districts opened by these roads to residence, and a reduction of rents in the centre of the city is very probable. The fear of such a reduction in Philadelphia is one of the forces which enlists opposition to rapid transit, just as the opposition to placing the public buildings at their new site enlisted the opposition of the owners of real estate on east Walnut street.

BROOKLYN has seen its first elevated road go into operation within a few days. We say its first, as the city will need more than one to bring the inland wards within reach of the centre of business. It needs no prophet to predict that with rapid transit and effective municipal government, the city will grow at a rate

unknown in even its earlier history. Perhaps by 1900 it will remand Philadelphia to a third place on the list. That is unless Philadelphia shall have discovered in the meantime that its strange and marvelous beauty will not be hopelessly destroyed by an elevated railroad.

* * *

A MONUMENT to Simon Snyder, who was the third Governor of Pennsylvania—from 1808 to 1817—was unveiled at Selinsgrove, the seat of Snyder county, on Wednesday with appropriate ceremonies. It is of granite, with medallions on three sides, representing him as a tanner, a farmer and a statesman, the whole crowned with a bronze bust of him. A fourth panel on the granite bears an inscription showing that it was erected by the Commonwealth. Governor Snyder represented the domination of the German element in Pennsylvania. Following McKean and Mifflin, neither of whom were Germans, he illustrated the destruction of Federalism and the complete triumph of the democratic feeling. Ex-Senator Cameron testified, at the unveiling that he "was one of the first men who advocated turnpikes and canals, and also one of the first advocates of railroads," and ex-Governor Hartranft, speaking of himself, also, as a German, praised the steadfast qualities of that race. But he and Snyder, though both of German blood, were much unlike in their immigrant origin; the Snyders were Lutherans or German Reformed, while the Hartranft ancestor was of the peace sects, a Schwenkfelder.

* * *

Among the books which had been announced for publication by James R. Osgood & Co., Boston, before their recent failure, was the "Life, Letters and Journals of Henry W. Longfellow," edited by his brother, Rev. Samuel Longfellow, who was lately pastor of the Unitarian church at Germantown, this city.

* * *

FROM Germany we hear of the death of Dr. Daniel Schenkel of Heidelberg, the greatest name among the Liberal theologians of Germany. Dr. Schenkel's career was the reverse of that which has been usual among the theologians of his generation. He set out as a man of the Mediation School, under the lead of Ullman and Nitzsch. But instead of working over to a more positive theology, he moved toward a less orthodox position. His earlier writings were welcomed as contributions to the orthodox defence. His later works, and especially his *Lebenbild Jesu*, were abhorred as hardly better than those of Strauss. At Heidelberg this change in his views rather emptied his lecture room than filled it. The students of theology crowded to orthodox Leipsic and still more orthodox Erlangen, while a mere handful gathered at Heidelberg, the only school of Liberal theology left.

The Mediation School may be said to have come to an end by force of logic carrying its adherents off in one direction or the other. One of its last consistent representatives was Prof. Landrer, of Tübingen, who is said to have begun his lectures in Dogmatics as follows: "Meine Herren, etliche sagen es ist ein Gott; andere aber sagen es ist kein Gott. Die Wahrheit, meine Herren, liegt dazwischen!"

* * *

An English clergyman, Rev. E. Thring, suggests that annotated readers take the place of all other text-books in the lower schools, and that the practice of hearing recitations be put an end to. He regards the present English system as ruinously mechanical tending to crush all life and spirituality out of both the teacher and his work. The business of the teacher, as now defined in England, is to cram the classes with information for the government inspector to sample in the periodical examinations. His true work is to evoke intellectual activity and clear up mental confusions by Socratic discussion, by question and answer freely interchanged. A class so dealt with would make but a poor show in a superintendent's inspection, but its members would be brighter boys and girls than after any quantity of cram. They would have had much rubbish cleared out of their brains, instead of some more packed in.

* * *

At the meeting of the Committee on Plans and Improvements of the Park Commission, on Wednesday, it was decided to recommend that the monument to General Meade be placed on the brow of the hill in the East Park, overlooking the drive. No final decision of the matter is likely to be reached until the Fairmount Park Art Association notifies the Commission that the statue is so far advanced that the foundations for the base should be laid.

A GEOLOGICAL CHAT.

THE gradually-awakening interest in the natural sciences has at length extended to geology, and it is believed that there are now a great number of persons who care to know a little about the strata of the district upon which they live. It cannot be said that

the geology of Pennsylvania, in the immediate vicinity of Philadelphia, is particularly interesting, except to mineralogists. Felspar, quartz and mica, variously intermingled, sometimes in small well-compacted grains, forming a stone suitable for building and other purposes where durability is required; at others composing a friable and perishable stone; and in other spots with the mica in scales or plates, producing a stone which readily parts into laminae, form the materials of the rock upon which Philadelphia is situated. This rock has been named "azoic" or without life, because no traces of fossils have yet been found in it, and it has until lately been very generally believed to be the oldest rock upon the American continent. Careful observation of the dip of the strata at points where they are in contact with the Laurentian gneiss which runs to the northward of them has, however, thrown considerable doubt upon their age, and many geologists are now of the opinion that the Philadelphia rocks are much newer than the Laurentian, which is also azoic. The mica is usually in the form of white mica, but biotite (black mica) and other rarer forms occur. The quartz is often present in separate veins, often of a bluish tint and semi-translucent appearance, and the felspar is also frequently found separate, either massive or by decomposition formed into kaolin or china clay. Throughout that portion of this belt which lies nearest to the Laurentian, a great number of garnets are disseminated, while hornblende, tourmaline, stilbite, and apatite are also common minerals.

In the exposures along the Wissahickon valley may be seen some striking examples of that folding and contortion of the strata with respect to the causation of which geologists are still contending. That these foldings are the necessary result of the contraction of the earth consequent upon cooling—the outer layers of rock being bent or broken to accommodate themselves to the shrinking mass beneath them—appears to be generally allowed, but while some correlate this plication by lateral pressure with a fluid state of the earth's interior, or at least with a fluid sheet beneath the outer crust, others reconcile it with the existence of a solid interior.

That portion of the azoic belt which lies between the Delaware and the line of hills upon which Germantown and West Philadelphia are situated, is covered with gravels and clays of comparatively recent age—the newest of them the work of the once mighty stream which descended from the glaciated region to the northward. This line of hills can be traced as a terrace far up the Delaware. A belt of serpentine, (silicate of magnesia), runs east and west through the azoic gneiss, a little to the southward of the Laurentian. It is well exposed along a lane leading from Chestnut Hill to the Wissahickon, whence it can readily be traced across the hills to Lafayette upon the Schuylkill, and thence westward. At many points the serpentine passes into soapstone or steatite, and even into talc. At Lafayette is an immense quarry of soapstone, which is used for sinks and various domestic purposes. Parts of the same belt pass into chlorite, a greenish mineral containing more alumina than the ordinary serpentine, and in this chlorite frequently occur crystals of magnetite, a magnetic oxide of iron. Whether this serpentine belt (the word serpentine being used geologically to indicate all the minerals composing it), is of volcanic origin, and was thrust through the Philadelphia rocks at a more recent date, or whether it was deposited where it is found, is still in dispute.

Immediately north of the Philadelphia rocks lies a belt of gneiss, formed also of felspar, quartz and mica, but with less mica and much hornblende, and a more compact and homogeneous structure. This belt is the Laurentian gneiss, and, while certainly older than the rocks to the northward of it, is also probably older than the Philadelphia series. At Chestnut Hill this belt is exceedingly narrow, but widens out greatly further to the west. No trace of any fossil has ever been found in this rock, for geologists have now given up the idea of the animal origin of the peculiar structure which occurs in the Laurentian of Canada, and was baptized as *Eozoon Canadense*.

Northward of the Laurentian lies a belt of sandstone, evidently the product of the comminution and deposition of the materials of the older rocks. Less mica is present, the other materials are in small grains, and the rock comparatively soft, but in some spots, as at Edge Hill, good enough to quarry. It has a tendency to split into laminae. The only fossil found in this rock, which is variously named the Potsdam or Cambrian sandstone, is the elongated, worm-like impression known as *Scolithus*. Immediately to the north of Philadelphia and east of the Schuylkill, the Cambrian sandstone surrounds a boat-shaped depression known as Montgomery or White Marsh Valley. The rock which fills this depression is limestone of Silurian age, certainly newer than the sandstone which forms a range of hills to the northward as well as to the southward of it, but worn into a valley because of its greater solubility in water. The limestone reappears again to the west of the Schuylkill, always forming the valleys, including the celebrated

Chester Valley. Although numerous fossils have been found in rocks of Silurian age, this particular stratum of limestone is unfossiliferous. The junction of the limestone with the underlying sandstone is in many places overlaid with beds of far more recent origin, consisting of kaolin, pebbles and iron ore, the latter in the form known as bog-iron ore. All the older rocks contain iron, and these iron ones and the other materials accompanying them are but the products of the decomposition of the sandstones and gneisses which border the valley. The ore is largely worked in many spots, especially at Edge Hill. The limestone often passes into a crystalline marble, and it is from this bed that the marble steps and sills of which Philadelphia is so vain have been in large part derived. The largest and oldest quarries, now unused, are near Barren Hill in close proximity to some mines of bog-iron ore. The principal quarry appears like a tremendous rift in the earth. More than a hundred feet of rock tower above the water which fills its depths, and is said to be more than one hundred feet deep. Arches of marble, left to support the lofty walls, bridge the chasm in two or three places. It is worth a journey to see.

The growing interest in geology may be largely attributed to the efforts of our local geologists to popularize the subject, and the writer particularly acknowledges his indebtedness to Prof. Angelo Heilprin for much of what he knows about the strata surrounding Philadelphia.

W. N. LOCKINGTON.

EARLY PENNSYLVANIA BIBLIOGRAPHY.

MR. Chas. R. Hildeburn, well known for his learned contributions to our local history, invites subscriptions to a book of decided value and interest. This work is an attempt to present full and accurate titles and collections of all the books, pamphlets and broadsides printed in Pennsylvania from 1685 to 1784, the hundred years following the introduction of printing into the middle colonies. The compiler has industriously visited the principal libraries in this country and England for the purpose of examining their early Pennsylvania publications, and he has thus obtained, examined and transcribed about two thousand strictly accurate titles. By a careful examination of all the newspapers printed in Philadelphia prior to 1785, Sabin's Dictionary, library and sale catalogues, and various other sources of information, he has secured descriptions more or less accurate, of two thousand more titles. Probably one-third of these cannot be found in any bibliographical work. The titles will be arranged chronologically and fully indexed. The work will make two volumes of about four hundred pages each, and the edition will be limited to two hundred and fifty copies. Subscriptions are solicited for the two volumes at five dollars each, but should the amount thus guaranteed prove insufficient to cover the cost of printing, one volume, covering the years from 1685 to about 1760, will be issued. The price to non-subscribers will be seven dollars and a half per volume. To collectors of early American books, this bibliography will be a very valuable addition to our scanty knowledge on the subject.

In his announcement, Mr. Hildeburn prints a few titles, showing the mechanical excellence of his proposed volume, and notes indicating the interest and value of the bibliographical information which it will contain. Thus he gives, concerning Atkins' "Almanack" for 1686, the first issue of the press in Philadelphia, the details of the action of the Provincial Council in their capacity as censors. One of the first copies of the publication, (a little pamphlet of 20 unpagged leaves), fell into the hands of Col. Markham, Penn's deputy, and he reported to the Council that it spoke of the beginning of the government of Pennsylvania "by Lord Penn." The Council emphatically disapproved this expression—as indeed, it was right they should, Penn being neither a lord, nor desiring such a title—and forthwith sent for Atkins, and for William Bradford, the printer, directing them "to blot out ye words 'Lord Penn.'" Only two perfect copies of this ancient almanac are known to exist. One of them formerly belonged to Mr. Brinley of Hartford, Conn., at whose sale it realized \$555, and the other was secured by Mr. Stone, the Librarian of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, (as was mentioned in THE AMERICAN at the time), for \$520, at the dispersion of the library of Dr. King of Newport, R. I. Fragments of two copies are known, one owned by the Historical Society and one by Mr. S. Gratz of Philadelphia. Another of the very earliest Philadelphia publications was the general epistle of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of Friends, 1686. It is a small octavo of 23 pages, and contains, besides the meeting's epistle—its first printed utterance, by the way—a letter from William Penn, and "An Epistle to Friends, to be read in their Monthly Meeting, by Frances Taylor."

The value of accuracy and detail in printing the titles and in full bibliographical notes, is sure to be manifested by Mr. Hildeburn, who is in everything a most careful and painstaking worker.

The growing interest in local bibliography will no doubt do much to preserve what we now possess and will also lead owners of early printed books to take care of their rare finds. One early Pennsylvania publication picked up in a London book store for a shilling, was gladly bought for the Library of the Historical Society at a hundred dollars. There may yet be other discoveries in the overlooked book rooms of some of our old households.

QUATRAINS.

OPPORTUNITY.

ALL powerful am I to make or mar,
To keep lives lowly or proclaim them great,—
Some find in me their soul's ascendant star,
And others but the will-o'-wisp of Fate.

DUALITY.

SOME hearts that seem as candid as the sky
Are burnished by a bland hypocrisy,—
While others like rude ore within the mould
Need but assayer's skill to prove them gold.

WILLIAM H. HAYNE.

Augusta, Ga.

REVIEWS.

THE NATURE OF MIND AND HUMAN AUTOMATISM. By Morton Prince, M. D. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co. 1885.

THIS volume is written from the standpoint of the physiologist, and is in close sympathy with the utterances of Lewes, Spencer, Huxley and Clifford, but is in some degree original, and more than a re-statement of their views. The well-known doctrine of the two "aspects" of matter, the subjective and objective, is rejected, and a new doctrine urged in place of it, a doctrine which does not make mind and matter as phenomenally known phases of an unknown entity, but makes consciousness the reality, and cerebral change the mode of its appearance to a second consciousness. The view that feelings, or subjective states, accompany molecular motions in the brain, but are not produced from them, nor reconvertible into them—the theory of an inexplicable concomitance of parallel and disparate phenomena—the author rejects, partly on the ground that an invariable concomitance is plain evidence of causal connection, and partly on the ground that consciousness declares feelings to be causes of actions, and not mere indications of brain changes. The attempt to explain how cerebral activity is transmuted into feeling and thought he regards as a vain one and a simple waste of effort, since such a transmutation does not take place. The feeling is in one mind; the cerebral change in another: that is, in the mind that is (in imagination) viewing the brain belonging to the former, for the brain as known is a group of sensations in a perceiving mind. Any attempt to express one element in terms of another, is an attempt to make them, contrary to nature, elements in the same consciousness. The difficulty is solved by looking upon the one element, the feeling, as the "thing in itself," the reality, and upon the other, the cerebral change, as a mode of the manifestation of the former to a second mind. All (phenomenal) matter must have its underlying "reality," and in the case of cerebral change we know what that reality is; it is thought, feeling, will. Cerebral change does not produce consciousness, nor become consciousness, but *is* consciousness,—so to speak, its outside. Thus is reconciled the conviction that feeling is a causal factor in the production of actions, with the law of the conservation of energy and the correlation of natural forces; and thus is obviated the disagreeable necessity of acknowledging the presence of two elements, one of which is supposed to be quite unnecessary to the attainment of the result, and clearly superfluous.

To all of this, we conceive, the objection will naturally be made that the author assumes and does not prove that thought is the "reality" of brain action: and the further objection might be made that the statement, carefully analyzed, will be found to be either a flat contradiction or simply meaningless. How one thing (a sensation of pain or pleasure) can be the reality of another thing (a complex of colors and forms) it is difficult to conceive: and it is only by using the words in a loose and general sense—as, for example, in calling the pulp of the apple the reality, as distinguished from the color of the outside,—that they may be made to contain any meaning at all. Taken strictly they are contrary to the principle of identity.

The author, who expresses very decided views as to the vanity of metaphysical abstractions, particularly when employed by theologians, has, with odd unconsciousness, revived the old scho-

lastic doctrine of the substratum, the true essence, as distinguished from mere appearance, and, bad as it was, he has made it worse by identifying this with the subjective group of phenomena—thought and feeling—as though thought and feeling did not "appear." To dogmatize about the substratum was bad enough, but to identify it with one of the groups of phenomena to be explained, and then simplify matters by calling the two groups one, shows a boldness in speculation and an indifference to the logical laws which frighten other men, only equaled by Father Tom in his famous discussion with the Pope.

The doctrine is in reality the old Leibnitzian Monadology in modern dress, and walking with the aid of a crutch presented by modern neuro-physiology: a venerable doctrine, doubtless, but not robust in its best days, and now flavored with decay. Dr Prince calls himself a materialist, but so defines materialism that it is undistinguishable from some forms of idealism. He calls man an automaton, inferring that the "reality," thought, must always correspond to the phenomenon, cerebral change, and the subject to fixed natural law. The book indicates no little acuteness, is fruitful in scattered ore, and is in the main clearly written. The author shows an acquaintance with English and American writers who have approached psychology from the physiological side, but is evidently not acquainted with the history of speculative thought.

G. S. F.

PARADISE FOUND: THE CRADLE OF THE HUMAN RACE AT THE NORTH POLE. A study of the Prehistoric World. By William F. Warren, S. T. D., LL. D. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 1885.

The smile which must inevitably greet the thesis so boldly laid down will be quickly dispelled by the vigor and learning displayed in its defence. The general line of thought is as follows: Granted that the earth was once in a state so hot as not to support animal or even vegetable life; granted that in cooling the poles cooled off first; it follows that they were first in a condition to allow of animal and more especially human life. This idea is supported and argued from every imaginable point of view. The explorers, the naturalists and the theologians, he contends, have been equally unsuccessful in locating the Eden of the Bible, the cradle of the human race. And here he is so anxious to make out the case that the review of the results degenerates into a polemic against them. The Eden of the Bible, according to the description, was near a river called Perath, in Assyrian, Purattu. The identification of this river with the Euphrates would of course work mischief to the North Polar theory, and it is accordingly disposed of by giving a false etymology to Purattu, and from that inferring that it could be applied to any river. Purattu does not mean "the broad" or "the deep;" *Pura* means river, and the Akkadian ideograph reads *river of Sippar*, the biblical *Sepharvaim*, and the modern *Aboo Habba*. Now if this chapter in the Bible has, as our author seems to think it has, any validity, the Perath must have represented the well-known river of that name. If the learned principal of the Boston University can demonstrate from a climatological standpoint that the North Pole was the original Eden, well and good, but the arguments from comparative mythology are rather unsound. So, too, he supports this argument by the statement that names of countries were frequently fanciful, and instances the aboriginal name of Babylon, *tin-tir-ki*, which, after Lenormant, he translates "the place of the tree of life." The example is unfortunate, for since the time of the "antediluvian" Assyriology, a glossary has been found which shows the meaning to be "dwelling of life." With Quatrefages, the eminent French anthropologist, who believes Western Asia to have been the home of man, he holds that the race is descended from a common stock, and he presents the people of America as an insuperable difficulty in the way of Asiatic origin. But it is a well-known fact that natural barriers never prove insurmountable to a migrating people. A hostile tribe will more effectually hinder their progress than the broadest ocean. So, too, the difficulty raised with regard to the use of *Kush*, in the description of Paradise, has been answered by Friederich Delitzsch's *Sprache der Kossäer*, a book in print almost a year and a half. However, though the philologists and archaeologists have hardly had a fair hearing, our author concludes that their results are invalid, and advances the hypothesis that "the cradle of the human race, the Eden of primitive tradition, was situated at the North Pole, in a country submerged at the time of the Deluge." This he tests by general geogony; by mathematical geography, showing as a matter of fact that there is more sunlight at the North Pole than in any other part of the earth; by physiographical geology, which shows that there was once a circumpolar country, now submerged; by prehistoric climatology, paleontological botany, zoology, anthropology and ethnology, and by comparative mythology. That the tests prove satisfactory it is needless to say. All the mountains of myth, like the Olympus of the Greeks, are sup-

posed to picture the world's mountain in the north, meeting the sky—the North Pole. All the traditions of a quadrifurcate river are relegated to the sky as source, and the oceans as streams. All stories of a tree of life are a mirroring of the tales of the ancestors who lived at the Pole, and represented in this way the axis of the earth. Enough for the general argument. Incidentally some very important facts are brought out. Thus that portion which relates to the cosmogony of Homer is undoubtedly correct. Only in the minds of the moderns was the ancients' earth a flat disc. There is plenty of evidence that the Semitic races had a spherical conception of the earth. Then, again, the insistence on the statement that man is not polygenic but descended from one pair is in the line of the best anthropological thought of our day.

We conclude, however, that President Warren has left the Paradise controversy where he found it:—that we are safe in holding with Quatrefages for the anthropologists and with Delitzsch for the archaeologists and philologists that the first human family saw the light in Western Asia. President Warren has put together a close chain of evidence, but the links are forged out of spurious metal.

A CHILD'S GARDEN OF VERSES. By Robert Louis Stevenson. Pp. 101, 12mo. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.

IT is not given to every one to write poetry for children. Most of those who have attempted it have erred either in the direction of a condescension which suggested that they were writing for the feeble-minded, or in shooting over the heads of their youthful readers. And children are not easily pleased. They have as keen a perception of what puts the mark in their own literature as elder people have in theirs. They resent patronage and namby-pamby stuff,—needless didactics. They relish humor or pathos, or genuine flights of the imaginative faculty.

Of the elder singers almost the only ones that hit the mark are Cowper (in John Gilpin), the Taylor sisters, and sometimes Wordsworth. Charles and Mary Lamb make a flat failure, if we may judge from the lapse of their book out of child's literature, and their reception in the revived edition by such children as we have tried it on. William Blake does not write for children, although he seems to. Miss Rossetti has published a volume for them which does not take hold. It is relished by their elders only, as is "Poems for a Child," by an unknown author. Mrs. Muloch-Craik and Theodore Tilton have hit the mark in the few poems they have written.

Mr. Stevenson seems to us to have achieved a notable success in this volume of verses. We say this upon the judgment of much more trustworthy critics than ourselves. It has been read and re-read by three such with increasing enjoyment, and welcomed as a genuine addition to the classics prepared for readers of their age. The vividness of its literary effects is due in great part to the method of the book. It is essentially autobiographic. Mr. Stevenson seems to have been a child whose health was of the kind that produces precocity of observation and imagination. He had the good fortune to be brought up by a good-hearted Scotch nurse, to whom he dedicates his little book. We find in the book no trace of an acquaintance with the brownies, the good people, and the other beings of the popular Scotch mythology. We suspect that Alison Cunningham was one of those strict Scotch Presbyterians who discountenance fairy stories and the like. But she must have had a share of the Scotch imaginative power, and have used it to entertain her sickly boy through the years of his childhood. His father, a banker in Edinburgh, lived in a suburban villa with a good sized garden attached; and here little Robert Louis spent his childhood in a simple and unchanged home, of which he thought the stars an appendix. The opening of a child's mind to all the wonders of the sky, the garden, the meadow and the moral law of human life, is the theme of the book. Much as we admire some of his previous work, his "New Arabian Nights" and his "Silverado Squatters" in particular, we think he touches a higher level in these simple verses than in anything he had written before this.

We can best indicate its quality by a specimen. Here for instance is "A Good Play:"

We built a ship upon the stairs,
All made of the back bed-room chairs,
And filled it full of sofa pillows
To go a-sailing on the billows.

We took a saw and several nails,
And water in the nursery pails,
And Tom said "Let us also take
An apple and a slice of cake;"—
Which was enough for Tom and me.
To go a-sailing on, till tea.

We sailed along for days and days,
And had the very best of plays;

But Tom fell out and hurt his knee,
So there was no left but me.

Mark the reminiscence of Robinson Crusoe in the fitting out of the ship. And the deliciously Homeric objectivity of the narrative, where a calamity reduces the crew to one. And note the perfect simplicity of the diction, every word being intelligible to a child. The humor of provisioning the ship so lavishly constantly reappears in the poems, and is quite patent to children. They laugh when the little foreign children are commiserated at having to live always abroad, and when the little fellow steals a march on his shadow by getting up before sunrise and leaving the shadow in bed.

The ethical line of the book is as excellent as its art. It is the joyous side of a child's life, told for all children. Its keynote is in the two-line poem on page 28:—

The world is so full of a number of things
I think we should all be as happy as kings.

MR. OLDMIXON. A novel. By William A. Hammond. New York: D. Appleton & Co.

Dr. Hammond has in this novel made fairly good the promise of his other books. It possibly has not as much variety as "Lal," nor as much vigor in the climax as "Dr. Grattan," but it is altogether a more artistic production than either of those books, showing better methods and more subtle power. Scientist, realist as he is, Dr. Hammond follows various well-known men of his order in admitting the imagination to a place among human forces higher even than that accorded it by most persons who are not distinctively men of fact. In "Lal," the whole train of circumstance grows out of a dream, the hero being impelled by that kind of intangible persuasion to leave his native Poland for our "far West," where he sees *Lal* and where things happen in their natural order. In "Mr. Oldmixon" this tendency of our doctor-novelist is even more marked. The old man whose name gives the title to the book "sees visions." In one of them he beholds the whole facts of a murder committed by a young relative, and so vivid is the impression made upon him, and so powerfully is he able to work upon the murderer's fear and conscience, that he wrings from him a confession. The incidents are narrated with force—with too much force as one cannot but think under the circumstances. The young man smothers his wife in a fit of passion, and Dr. Hammond tells us, with the considerable weight of his professional authority and reputation, that it is impossible by any of the tests known to science to detect foul play in such a death as that described. The intention is to bring out the reality of *Mr. Oldmixon's* "vision," but we regard it as very questionable policy on the part of a medical expert to play with the possible powers of mischief in this fashion. It is an uncomfortable thought that some nascent villain into whose hands this book may fall may "better the instruction."

BRIEFER NOTICES.

MR. Henry A. Beers says candidly in the introduction to his "Prose Writings" of N. P. Willis, (N. Y., Charles Scribner's Sons), "that it is by no means certain that the public has any longer any interest in the subject, but that it has been thought worth while to put the question to the test. In both the doubt and the propriety of the determination to prove it, we quite unite with Willis's very competent biographer and editor. Willis, in a time not very far removed—he has been dead only about twenty years and was active almost to the last—was a figure of mark in American letters. It has always been indicated that his reputation was not of the abiding kind, but it may also be shown that there was enough reality in it to give portions of his work a dignified place in our literary records. Mr. Beers' selections will do this if it is a thing that can be done. They are so arranged as to show Willis's gifts as a story-teller, a humorist and a descriptive writer, and include passages from his series of letters "Pencilings by the Way," and "Letters from under a Bridge," chapters from the novel, "Edith Linsey," and some short stories, of which "The Lunatic's Skate" is the best. It is work characterized throughout by easy grace.

Mr. W. Mathieu Williams in his "Chemistry of Cookery" (N. Y., D. Appleton & Co.), has, we fear, had his trouble for his pains. That is to say, it is a book over the heads of those to whom cookery is a practical interest, while for scientists it has no new messages. While it might be desirable to have our kitchen work carried on as understandingly, and upon as strict a scientific basis as Mr. Williams thinks essential, we see no reason for expecting that cooks or their mistresses will speedily, if ever, reach that learned height. This, in brief, is one of those instances of mistaken energy, the sum of which loads down the libraries of the world with mountains of unread books. All that Mr. Williams

says is wise and true; the error is in supposing that such a treatise as this can reach such a public as the author hopes to benefit. It can only be appreciated, understood even, by persons of learning, —and they do not need it.

The second "Part" of Lord Lytton's monster poem "Glenaveril, or the Metamorphoses" is very dull. It is, properly speaking, a misnomer to call such commonplace in rhyme, poetry. "Glenaveril" is a novel in verse, and it could have been told with vastly more effect in prose. There is no ideality, spirituality, elevation,—the things which constitute real poetry—in all its wearisome length. It is now but one-third finished, yet it makes 238 pages and over 4200 lines. Perhaps it has been "Owen Meredith's" ambition to write the longest poem in the English language. Possibly "Glenaveril" is that poem, but we shall be much mistaken if it is not eventually pronounced by the reading world to have been a foolish blunder. (N. Y., D. Appleton & Co.)

AUTHORS AND PUBLISHERS.

THE most notable event in the publishing world during the past week was the issue of the revised Old Testament, on the 21st inst. The Oxford Edition was handled in this country by Messrs. Thomas Nelson & Sons, of New York, and the Cambridge Edition by the J. B. Lippincott Company, of Philadelphia. Harper & Brothers also received their four-volume edition at midnight of the 20th, and were ready to deliver simultaneously with the other main agencies. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. will soon publish the "Revised Parallel" Bible, containing the old and new versions of the Old and New Testaments. Messrs. Funk & Wagnalls issue in connection with the revised Bible "A Companion to the Revised Old Testament," by Talbot W. Chambers, one of the American Committee of Revision. Messrs. Fords, Howard & Hulbert will soon bring out the reading of the Book of Psalms made by the American Committee but not included in the English version.

There is great dulness in the Boston publishing trade.—The *North American Review* concludes its seventieth year with the June number.—Lord Ronald Gower's account of his recent travels eastward, "Notes on a Tour from Brindisi to Yokohama" will be ready shortly in London.—A novel of western life by Mrs. Foote, author of "The Led-Horse Claim," will be begun in the *Century*, probably before the conclusion of "The Bostonians."—The correspondence of John Brown (of Harper's Ferry) was so voluminous that hundreds of letters have had to be excluded by his biographer, for lack of room.

Mr. Charles Welford of the firm of Scribner & Welford, died in London on the 20th inst., aged 70. This house is quite distinct from Charles Scribner's Sons, and confines itself to the importation of books. Mr. Welford had long lived in this country, but at the time of his death was the resident English buyer for the house.—The death is reported on the 29th of April of one of the most graceful of contemporary Danish poets, Hans Vilhelm Kaalund.

The former editor of the *Manhattan Magazine* says that the publication of that periodical is certainly to be resumed, probably within two or three months.

The *American Bookseller* speaks of "Dr. Philip Schaff, who poses as the *Jupiter tonans* of ecclesiastical paleology."—Messrs. Henry Holt & Co., have just issued a volume of "Collected Essays on Political and Social Science," by Prof. W. G. Sumner.—The *Literary World* prints an "Edmund Gosse Bibliography" by Mr. Thorvald Solberg; it is a long and very faithful piece of work, but is the "game worth the candle?"

General Gordon's Diaries will soon be published simultaneously by Messrs. Kegan, Paul & Co. of London, and Houghton, Mifflin & Co. of Boston. The volume, which is edited by Mr. A. Egmont-Hake—a cousin of Gordon's—includes letters from General Stewart and El Mahdi, together with other important documents and maps.

The *Commonwealth* newspaper has been sold by the heirs of the late C. W. Slack to Mr. D. N. Thayer, of New York, who will make some changes in it and endeavor to place it in the front rank of Boston weeklies.

A collection of papers on birds and bird life, by Mr. Bradford Torrey of Boston, is soon to be published.

General Grant has continued to work upon his book, and on the 19th wrote its dedication, which is stated to be as follows:

"To the officers and soldiers engaged in the war of the rebellion, and also those engaged in the war in Mexico, these volumes are dedicated."
U. S. GRANT."

Henry M. Stanley's new book, "Congo," will be published next week. Arrangements have been made to have English, American, German, Scandinavian, Spanish, Indian, Portuguese and Dutch editions published almost simultaneously.

The London *Jewish Chronicle* has commenced a publication called the *Jewish Pulpit*. It will consist of sermons by eminent Jewish preachers.

Prof. Katuzsch has just published the twenty-fourth edition of Gesenius's Hebrew Grammar.

The novel by Mr. Howells which is to succeed "Silas Lapham" in the *Century*, will not begin in the August number, as we stated last week. "Silas Lapham" will probably be concluded in August. The date for beginning the new story, which is to some extent a sequel to "Silas," has not yet been determined.

Messrs. Kay & Bros., Philadelphia, will have ready in June, a new (the eleventh) edition of "Brightly's Purdon's Digest of the Laws of Pennsylvania from 1700 to 1884." It will be entirely rewritten and revised, with notes to the judicial decisions, and a new and exhaustive index, by F. C. Brightly.

Dr. Abbott has been for some time past engaged on a volume dealing with "Lord Bacon: His Life and Works." The book is just ready for the printers. The work will be divided into two parts. Part I. will deal with Bacon's life and character, Part II. with his works.

By arrangement with Longfellow's publishers, Messrs. E. P. Dutton & Co. will issue for the coming season an illustrated edition of "The Village Blacksmith."

Messrs. Jansen, McClurg & Co., of Chicago, will control the American edition of the exhaustive monograph on Sappho, prepared by Henry J. Wharton, with the assistance of J. Addington Symonds. It will be issued in large and small paper copies.

Admiral Porter has been encouraged to write another novel, the incidents of which are wholly naval. It is called "The Adventures of Harry Marline."

"The World of London" is the English title of Count Paul Vassili's new work, which will be published simultaneously in England and France. The English edition will be issued by Messrs. Sampson Low & Co.

The firm of Ginn, Heath & Co., Boston, has been changed to Ginn & Co., Mr. Heath retiring.—Miss Jewett's "Marsh Island" is ready in book form.—Lord Tennyson is writing a historical drama, a sequel to "Becket," and is collecting his detached poems, which will be issued with new lyrics.—A story from the pen of H. H. Clark of the U. S. Navy, under the title of "Boy Life in the Navy," is announced by Messrs D. Lothrop & Co.

The Incorporated Society of Authors, which held its general meeting in London a few weeks ago, now numbers 302 members, including those in America and foreign countries. The actual work begun and being carried on by the committee may be regarded as falling under three heads—(1) the reform of the Copyright Laws, (2) the relations between authors and publishers, (3) the protection and assistance of authors. With respect to the Copyright Laws, a bill will be drawn up by the Society's counsel, and many promises of support have been received from members of both Houses of Parliament.

The "Collection Schick"—the new series of tales by distinguished German writers which has begun to appear in Chicago—is accompanied by a series of English translations of these tales bearing the general title of "The Overland Library." The two series are the same in typography and make-up, and are intended to be read together, if desired, by students of German.

Mr. R. G. Moulton is engaged on a book to fulfil a double purpose. Its title is "Shakespeare as a Dramatic artist: a Popular Illustration of the Principles of Scientific Criticism." The popular side of the work will consist of a series of studies exhibiting Shakespeare in the light of an artist in drama. The rest of the work will put the claim of literary criticism to a place in the circle of the inductive sciences; giving a sketch of dramatic criticism as an inductive science, with its three leading divisions, interest of character, of passion, and of plot. The Clarendon Press will publish the volume.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

A MARSH ISLAND. By Sarah Orne Jewett. Pp. 292. \$1.25. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. (Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co.)

TALES FROM MANY SOURCES. Vol. III. [Eight Stories, by William Black, the author of "John Inglesant," and others.] Pp. 267. \$0.75. New York: Dodd, Mead & Co. (Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co.)

VAIN FOREBODINGS. By E. Oswald. Translated from the German, by Mrs. A. L. Wister. Pp. 305. \$1.25. (Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co.)

TROUBLED WATERS. A PROBLEM OF TO-DAY. By Beverley Ellison Warner. Pp. 327. \$1.25. (Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co.)

THE FALL OF THE GREAT REPUBLIC. Paper. Pp. 226. \$0.30. Boston: Roberts Brothers. (Philadelphia: Porter & Coates.)

POEMS OF THE OLD DAYS AND THE NEW. By Jean Ingelow. Pp. 229. \$1.25. Boston: Roberts Brothers. (Philadelphia: Porter & Coates.)

A COMPANION TO THE REVISED OLD TESTAMENT. By Talbot W. Chambers. Pp. 269. \$1.00. New York: Funk & Wagnalls.

SNOB PAPERS. A HUMOROUS NOVEL. By Adair Welcker, Sacramento, Cal. Pp. 456. \$1.25. (Philadelphia: T. B. Peterson & Bros.)

CAMP-FIRE, MEMORIAL-DAY AND OTHER POEMS. By Kate Brownlee Sherwood. Pp. 212. \$1.00. Chicago: Jansen, McClurg & Co. (Philadelphia: Porter & Coates.)

ANECDOTES NOUVELLES. LECTURES FACILES ET AMUSANTES, a l'Usage Classes de Francais. Pp. 72. \$0.30. New York: W. R. Jenkins.

NOTES ON PERIODICALS.

THE June issue of *The Century* will be ready Monday—the 1st of June. It includes a paper by the Protestant Episcopal Bishop of Kentucky, entitled, "How shall we help the Negro?" in which the writer, who is a Southerner by birth and an ex-Confederate officer, takes the ground that the whites must help the colored people, "teach them, guide them, lift them up; and that we may do so, we must treat them as men." Theodore Roosevelt's article on "Still-hunting the Grizzly," a paper on the Herschel family, with three full-page portraits; another New Orleans Exposition paper by E. V. Smalley; with Kemble's character drawings; and an illustrated article on orchids by Mrs. Sophie B. Herrick, are among the other contents.

Mr. Henry Gannett, in his article in the *Popular Science Monthly*, for June, "Are we to become Africanized?" thinks we are not. He says: "Such being the history of the negroes in ante-bellum days, when they were property, and when every consideration of self-interest prompted their owners to watch over their health, to encourage child-bearing, and to protect and preserve the children, is it to be supposed for a moment that this careless, improvident, ignorant race, thrown suddenly upon its own resources, should at once, or within a generation, take on a rate of increase more rapid than before emancipation? The wonder is, that in the past twenty years they have not fallen further behind. Considering the colored race in this country as a whole, it is seen that it has not held its own, either in a state of slavery or thus far in freedom. It is but another illustration of the fact, that an inferior race can not thrive side by side with a superior one. It would seem, therefore, under the circumstances, more profitable to study ways and means for preserving and strengthening the manual labor element of the South, rather than to debate the methods of getting rid of it."

The last completed story by the late Rev. William M. Baker, author of "His Majesty Myself," etc., is a tale of Texan life, dealing with two brothers who choose different employments, indicated by the title, "Sheep or Silver." It will be published serially in *St. Nicholas*, beginning with the June number.

The current issue of *The Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography*, the quarterly publication of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, is No. 33, and begins the ninth volume. It has been clad in a dress of new type, and looks very well indeed. Among the contents is an interesting biographical sketch by Mr. Chas. R. Hildeburn, of Sir John St. Clair, who was the English Quartermaster-General in the American Colonies, for twelve years. He came over in 1755, to organize the supply and transportation service for Braddock's Expedition, and spent a good deal of time, subsequently, in Philadelphia, where he married Miss Moland, daughter of a prominent lawyer. He died at a place which he had purchased, near Elizabeth, N. J., in 1767. The *Magazine* also prints Dr. D. G. Brinton's able address, (delivered in the hall of the Historic Society, March 9th, last), on "American Languages and why we should Study Them." Dr. Brinton believes that in the future "the linguist will find that he is nearest the solution of the most weighty problems of his science when he directs his attention to the least cultivated languages," and he predicts "that in the future the analysis of the American languages will be regarded as one of the most important fields in linguistic study, and will modify most materially the findings of that science." It may be mentioned that the *Magazine*, which has heretofore been stereotyped, will now be printed from the types, so that the editions cannot be indefinitely increased, and those wanting copies should be careful to be upon the subscription list.

Bret Harte's serial, "A Ship of '49," in the *English Illustrated Magazine*, (London and New York: Macmillan & Co.), has been a lively story, and adds something to the author's repute. It is completed in the May number.

ART NOTES.

MR. E. BURNE JONES receives considerable attention in the June number of the *Magazine of Art*. The frontispiece is a reproduction of "A Study of Drapery and Gesture," by this artist, and there is also an elaborate article upon the painter by Mr. Claude Phillips, illustrated with engravings of "The Wheel of Fortune," "Solomon's Song," and other of Mr. Burne Jones' characteristic works. This makes a highly entertaining paper, and one of the best that the *Magazine* has printed in a long while. Other fine illustrated articles are "Inland and Home," an instalment of Mr. Sidney Colvin's "East Suffolk Memories;" a sketch of the famous Eighteenth Century French painter Lantara, by Mr. A. Egmont-Hake; "Design of Feathers" by Charles Whymper, and "From Gothic Glass to Renaissance," by Lewis F. Day. The

account of an industrial art school in London, which seems to have features in common with the art work organized in Philadelphia by Mr. Leland, is very readable. The number as a whole is noticeably good. (Cassell & Co., New York.)

The National Academy of Design announces that the annual autumnal exhibition will be opened on Monday, November 23d, and closed on Saturday, December 19th. Pictures will be received from Monday, November 2d, to Wednesday, November 4th, inclusive. Varnishing day is appointed for Friday, November 20th, and representatives of the press will be admitted to the galleries the same day after 2 o'clock P. M.

The American Art Association, New York, is sending out blanks for the November exhibition. The current Prize Fund Exhibition has been continued during this week. The prize pictures have been forwarded to the cities to which they have been awarded, but other works have been hung in their places. So much opposition to the plan of having the collection exhibited in other cities has come from the artists represented, that the plan has been abandoned. It is announced that ten prizes of \$2,000 each will be given next year, and to the ten pictures next in merit the medals designed by Mr. A. St. Gaudens will be awarded.

The New York Branch of the National Art League, which, by the way, continues a solitary branch with no trunk, proposes to hold a "Century Exhibition" next fall, illustrative of the history and progress of art in this country. The promoters of the undertaking express the hope that the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts will co-operate with the League and contribute representative pictures enough to make the exhibition successful. The Academy has a large and valuable collection, fairly and almost fully illustrating the rise and progress of oil painting in America. This collection is necessarily most valuable in its integrity and the representative works it offers to the student should be seen together, as they are at present carefully arranged in the galleries of the Academy. These galleries are open every day in the year, and present a permanent "Century Exhibition," eminently worthy of attention. A proposal to remove this collection temporarily to New York is hardly likely to meet with favor in Philadelphia.

The schools of the Pennsylvania Academy close this week. As above noted, the galleries remain open throughout the year: free on Sundays. The Thursday concerts by the Germania Orchestra have been very successful this season, and will be resumed, either on the last Thursday of October or the first Thursday of November next, under the competent direction of Conductor Charles M. Schmitz.

Hon. John. Bigelow, formerly American Minister to France, was said some time ago to be in search of a pen-and-ink drawing by Victor Hugo, of the house occupied by Benjamin Franklin in Paris. The sketch is now reported to be among the effects of the late Ralph Waldo Emerson, who bought it at the New York Sanitary Fair, to which the picture was presented.

Since the death of the great poet, much interest has been awakened in the many drawings he made from time to time, which were for the most part given away as souvenirs to his friends. One of these he retained in his own study many years, and a newspaper correspondent makes the following current mention of it: "Probably the most powerful drawing Mr. Hugo ever made was that sombre outline in sepia with which he emphasized his opinion of John Brown, of the Harper's Ferry affair. It bears the title of 'Washington Hanging Spartacus'—a background of dark wash looming like a thunderous cloud, out of which stands boldly the arm of a gallows, while the support is just suggested in the body of the cloud. From the cross-tree hangs a tragic figure, limp and lax in its drear outlines, the head and face covered. It is that of a man hanged on the gallows. Beneath is Hugo's autograph, and the date, December 2, 1859. The writer saw the original at Hauteville, the poet himself recalling the tragedy, and with eager earnestness asking questions about him whom he characterized as the 'American Spartacus.' Certainly the drawing was as powerful as the lesson it conveyed was sentimentally expressed thereby. A copy was, it is believed, sent to the widow of John Brown, and is probably now in California in the possession of Annie Brown, the eldest daughter, a quiet worker in San Francisco."

The new Unitarian Building, in Boston is to be enriched with a collection of portraits of the saints and sages of the denomination. The latest acquisition is an admirable likeness of the late Dr. Ezra Abbot, the distinguished Harvard professor and Biblical scholar. A subscription is now being taken to procure a portrait of Theodore Parker.

A fling at American picture buyers, which is not so pertinent now as it would have been some years since, is found in the following current paragraph: "Alma Tadema, the London artist, is

finishing 'A Scene from the Triumph of Tiberius,' of course for a rich American, who wants something representing Rome centuries ago, by a foreign artist, and who wouldn't hang the best American picture ever painted within gunshot of his gallery."

Among the pictures receiving favorable notice at the New Orleans Exposition are James B. Sword's two contributions. Both show scenes of good size, the one entitled, "Newport Harbor," and the other "Evening." The latter work seems to be especially attractive to the Crescent City critics, its deep, rich color and the element of mystery in its twilight effects winning warm praise.

Philip Weber also has a marine in the Exposition of which the papers speak in high terms, as witness the following from the *Times-Democrat*: "Philip Weber's scene at 'Grand Menan,' No. 245, very happily pictures a water-walled shore, where a boisterous jet of spray has frightened the seagulls from their crannied homes. There is nice concentrated effect in the work. The light of the moon, breaking from behind a cloud and flashing across the water, is a fine idea."

KEYS.¹

LONG ago in old Granada, when the Moors were forced to flee,
Each man locked his home behind him, taking in his flight
the key.

Hopefully they watched and waited for the time to come when they
Should return from their long exile to those homes so far away.

But the mansions in Granada they had left in all their prime
Vanished as the years rolled onward, 'neath the crumbling
touch of time.

Like the Moors, we all have dwellings where we vainly long to
be,
And through all life's changing phases ever fast we hold the
key.

Our fair country lies behind us; we are exiles, too, in truth.
For no more shall we behold her. Our Granada's name is
Youth.

We have our delusive day-dreams, and rejoice when, now and
then,
Some old heartstring stirs within us, and we feel our youth
again.

"We are young," we cry triumphant, thrilled with old-time joy
and glee.
Then the dream fades slowly, softly, leaving nothing but the
key!

BESSIE CHANDLER.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES.

MR. Cyrus Thomas contributes to *Science* an interesting description of a mound near Irvine, Warren county, Pa., which he explored last summer, by permission of the owner of the property, Dr. W. A. Irvine. There are two of these mounds, well known for the last seventy years, but undisturbed in that time, except that a shallow pit was dug in the side of the smaller one, about fifty years ago. The smaller, on the bank of the Allegheny River, near where it is joined by Brokenstraw Creek, is circular, 52 feet in diameter, and 3½ feet high, but has evidently been considerably lowered and expanded by the plow, which has passed over it for at least sixty years. In the centre is a large stone vault, in which were found human remains, "and with these the joint of a large reed or cane, wrapped in thin, evenly-hammered silver foil." A careful analysis of the last showed it to be comparatively pure native silver, containing no alloy. Seneca Indians, who occupied the land formerly, protested that they did not know who constructed these mounds.

Another party for the scientific exploration of Greenland is being organized by the authorities at Copenhagen. It will be commanded by the naval lieutenant, J. A. D. Jensen, assisted by Lieut. C. H. Ryden.

In speaking of the benefit to be expected from the large telescope now building, Professor Asaph Hall recently said that we must not commit the common error of expecting too much

from the use of such instruments. Measured by the relative amount of light gathered, the gain seems great; but, when we pass from a fifteen-inch objective to one of thirty inches in diameter, our gain in the visibility of stars is only one and a half magnitudes. It is true that the number of stars brought to view by the larger glass in the shell of our great celestial sphere is very great; but they are of the faintest kind, and the study of these stars is very laborious. And, moreover, all the obvious and striking discoveries of astronomy have been made long since.

Late advices from Zanzibar state that the four explorers sent to the Ussagara by the German colonization society have been very unfortunate. They halted between Mpuapua and Condoa, where one died. Dr. Peters and Herr Baumann, stricken with malignant fevers, were obliged to return to Zanzibar in a serious state, while the leader of the party was left alone on the spot in a condition of great destitution. Aid was immediately despatched by the German traders of Zanzibar, which, it is hoped, will ameliorate his condition. Two other German explorers, the brothers Denhart, sent by the Berlin geographical society, had arrived at Zanzibar, where they were joined by Herr Schlumke, for the last five years an explorer with Dr. Fischer. The party intend to visit Samburo Lake, and explore the region of the Borani Gallas, as well as to explore the geology and botany of the upper parts of Kilimanjaro and Kenia.

The death of King Mtesa is confirmed. Those interested in the civilization of the country believe his successor will be more likely to assist in the process than the late king, whose volatility and caprice more than undid the good resulting from his occasional favors. Mirambo, sometimes known as the negro Napoleon, is also dead. He was noted for his courage, great intelligence, and semi-civilization. His death is likely to plunge the population of a vast region into anarchy; for by his ability, in spite of his humble birth, he had brought into submission a large territory, and made all the neighboring sultans his vassals.

FRENCH VIEWS ON ENGLISH WRITERS.¹

"THE French mind," says a modern observer, "with all its facilities is not really hospitable. It cannot reproduce the accent of English, German, or Scandinavian thought without alteration and disturbance."

This is one of those judgments which make one think. On the whole there is at the bottom of our English consciousness something which yields assent to it. We who are so ready to believe in the width and the catholicity of our own sympathies, who would smile at the idea that there is anything in French ideas or French literature that we cannot, if we will, understand—we have most of us at bottom, a rooted belief that the French are by nature incapable of really penetrating the English mind, or understanding our poetry, or appreciating our art, or of estimating the true proportions and relations of qualities in our national genius. We have scarcely brought ourselves to believe even now in the reality of the French admiration of Shakespeare. Voltaire's second period of petulance towards him, which has practically no effect in France, has made a much deeper impression upon us than his first period of appreciation, which had great and lasting consequences.

We cannot forget, we find it even hard to forgive the *naivete* with which the French took Byron and his despairs entirely at his own valuation, and we smile over the passion with which De Musset reproaches Goethe and Byron for their influence on the century and on him. "Forgive me, great poets,—you are demigods, and I am but a child in pain. But as I write, I needs must curse you! Why could you not have sung the perfume of the flowers, the voices of nature, hope and love, the sunshine and the vine, beauty and the blue heaven? I have perhaps felt the weight of griefs to which you were strangers, and still I believe in hope, still I bless God!" Such a passage as this sets one meditating on the weakness of the Byronic influence over our own later poets, on the fugitive and short-lived traces of it, for instance, in the work of the young Tennyson, who published his first volume of poems only three years after Byron's death, and on the rapidity of its decay in the presence of other and greater forces; and as we recall the French ignorance of Wordsworth, of Keats and Shelley, we feel ourselves again in the presence of a sort of national blunder, of a kind of obtuseness to the characteristic notes of the English genius, which we are inclined to regard as inborn and therefore irremediable.

Is it so? Is there really anything in the literary sphere into which the French mind, that sharp and subtle instrument of which the world has so often felt the edge, whether for good or evil, cannot penetrate if it will? The shallow disproportionate French criticism of the past from which Germany has suffered no less than ourselves, was it not simply the result, not of inherent lack of faculty, but of lack of knowledge? The Frenchman of the eighteenth century, dazzled with his own brilliant tradition, and witness of its effect in other countries than his own, could not easily persuade himself that

¹From "Bric-a-Brac" in *The Century* for June.

¹Macmillan's Magazine for May.

those other countries had anything worth his serious study in return. The romantic movement, with all its forcible irregular ways of awakening sympathy and enlarging taste, was needed before the barriers separating France from the rest of the world could be effectually broken through. The rage for Byron, for Walter Scott, for Shakespeare, for Teutonic fancy and Teutonic reverie which it evoked, might be often unreasoning and ignorant, might be capable any moment of disturbing or displacing the true "accent" of what it loved and praised, but still it was an expansive, educating force, a force of progress. The imaginative tumult of the time was in reality but one aspect of the central scientific impulse, which has in so many ways transformed European thought and life during the century; and those who were born in its midst have passed naturally and inevitably onward from a first period of stress and struggle, of rich and tangled enthusiasms, into a second period of reflection, assimilation, and research.

Nowadays the French are producing no great poetry and no great art. But in all directions they are learning, researching, and examining. Their historical work has caught the spirit of German thoroughness; their art is becoming technical and complicated to an almost intolerable degree; while, in the domain of the novel, the positivist passion of the moment shows itself under the strange and bastard forms of the *roman expérimentale et scientifique*. It is especially in their criticism that the modern spirit, with its determination to see things as they are, independently of convention and formula, and to see them not only from the outside, but in all their processes of growth and development, has borne most excellent fruit. One has but to compare Chateaubriand's fantastic and ignorant *Essai sur la Littérature Anglaise*, with Sainte Beuve's criticisms of Cowper, or Thomson, or Wordsworth, with the work of Montegut or M. Scherer, to realise the modern progress in exactness of knowledge, in conscientiousness of spirit, in pliancy and elasticity of method.

THE GEORGIA CONVICT LEASE SYSTEM.¹

ONE of the great grievances of the South is its reformatory institutions. The Georgia convict lease system is far from being a system laudable in the chastisement of crime, but is rather the guardian and promoter of evil; an absolute failure towards mitigating crime, a disgust to the sacred interests of society, a shameful and sacrilegious disgrace to civilization and the public mind, to the State an institution of profligacy and uncontrolled licentiousness.

The penitentiary is divided into four allotments: penitentiary 1, 2, 3, and Marietta and North Georgia R. R. Co. These are subdivided into fourteen or fifteen camps or squads, as the lessees see profitable. They extend from the mountains in the north to the extreme lowlands of the Southern portion, from the Alabama and Chattahoochee on the west to the seaboard on the east, embracing a diversity of climate and local influence rarely experienced in a prison.

The convicts are employed in lumbering, grading roads, brick-making, raising iron ore, digging coal, farming and all other industries that will bring pecuniary profit to the managers.

The inmates number 1,639. Of these 1,516 are blacks, 123 whites—what an apparent contrast between the two races in the perpetration of crime? 30 females (all black) complete the number. 203 are able simply to write. During the year 1884, 1379 cases of sickness were recorded; 53 escapes. 802 were imprisoned for stealing, 413 for murder and attempt, and 61 for rape and attempt.

Sanitary laws, one would think, ought to have strict observance in a prison: meals at regular hours, a set time for rising and retiring, cleanliness and a sufficient amount of wholesome food; but that sanitary precautions have been grossly neglected, and to the managers only a secondary consideration, is evident by reference to the last biennial report. Out of 1,639 prisoners there were 1,379 cases of sickness. The cases most common are syphilitic scrofula or scurvy, which (in the report) are placed under the category of other rare affections as "swelled feet or legs," debility or diarrhoea. This is done to free the public mind from having any reflection upon the inhuman management of the managers. The stockades where these convicts are crowded are in direct opposition to every sanitary pre-requisite. They are often too small. The living, the sick, the dying are all in the same too meagerly-constructed apartments, in which the atmosphere is charged with a suffocating and fetid smell filled with poison sufficient to produce a high percentage of mortality. When a body of them enters a coach, *always the car in which colored people are forced to ride*, they produce such a sickening odor that it becomes necessary to hoist every window and to throw open every door, that breath and life may be maintained. I speak from what I have experienced times more than one in number, on more than one railroad in the state. I know but one exception, the Marietta and North Georgia. This is controlled and owned by Bostonians mostly. Henry W. Grady, in his answer to G. W. Cable, has made a denial of the above fact. I regret that Grady's knowledge is so limited, that he does not know the condition of affairs upon the public transportation lines of his own state.

There is but little perceptible difference in the treatment between the women and the men. The women are required to perform

the same duties as the men. They wear stripes. Their dresses are frequently indecently too short, so in laboring not to prove cumbersome to the feet and legs. The women are brought into direct contact with a set of criminals, hardened by their unlimited communications with each other. They constitute one of the basest and most licentious classes of libertines conceivable; destitute of shame, virtue, and every social restraint.

Among the convicts there are 223 boys, between the ages of ten and twenty. Can it be conceded that the state is doing the best thing for these lads, in the improvement of their intellects and the reformation of their morals? Often they are serving for their first misdemeanor, committed in an innocent and childish manner. Some weeks ago a small colored boy of about ten summers, living a few miles from a thriving rustic town, wished some "goodies." Seeing some chickens picking in a skirt of woods, he pursued one to possession. Carrying his spoil to town, he sold it, and immediately invested the money (twenty cents) in oranges, candies, etc. Before his return home he was arrested and placed in jail. He was convicted of larceny and sentenced to serve two years in the chain gang. Thus the price of one hen brought the longest sentence the judge could give under the statutes. A number of such cases could be cited. A boy passes my school-house every day who is serving a long sentence for the stealing of one handkerchief.

In the statistics I omitted to state that the price paid for labor per capita per annum, is \$22.72, or less than seven cents per day. The state receives \$25,000 annually from this hire; the net proceeds, at the least, amount to \$18,000. During the campaign of Colquitt and Norwood, stump-speakers constantly affirmed that the net profits from the Dade coal mine annually amounted to \$150,000; it owns twelve-and-a-half per cent. interest and receives a profit eightfold greater than the state.

I assert, without fear of successful contradiction, that many blacks are confined and serving long sentences that the aggravation of their crimes and acquisitions do not warrant. The appearance of criminality and *crude* circumstantial evidence have been and are too potent an element by which this inhuman system of slavery has kept its pens full of occupants, that justice views with a ghastly gaze and human inspection recoils from. The system absolutely fails in arresting the enormities that are yearly increasing.

MRS. BURLINGA.

DEATHS.

Jacob P. Jones, a retired merchant of Philadelphia, died on the 20th, aged 79. He had been prominently connected with various public institutions of the city, and leaves a large estate, most of which, upon the demise of his widow, will go to Haverford College.

Victor Hugo, (elsewhere spoken of at length), died in Paris on the 22nd inst., at 1.30 P. M. He was born in Besancon, February 26, 1802.

Professor Oren Root, LL. D., for many years professor of mathematics at Hamilton College, died on the 22d inst., at Clinton, N. Y., aged 81.

Theodore Bollu, a well-known French architect, born June 8, 1817, died on the 23d.

Judge Chillion Robbins, of Freehold, N. J., a prominent lawyer, died on the 24th, aged 43.

Frederick J. Fergus, better known by his literary name, "Hugh Conway," (used in his novels, "Called Back," and "Dark Days"), died at Monaco on the 14th inst., of typhoid fever, aged 37. His home was in Bristol, England, where he had pursued, previous to the issue of his successful novel, the occupation of an auctioneer.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen, Secretary of State in Mr. Arthur's Administration, and formerly U. S. Senator from New Jersey, died at his residence at Newark, on the 21st inst., in his 68th year.

DRIFT.

—It is remarked that if Lord Randolph Churchill does not inherit the brains of John. Duke of Marlborough, he does the tongue of Sarah, his wife.

—The Atlanta *Constitution* intimates that in the bright lexicon of the Democracy an "offensive partisan" is a Republican office-holder. It may take some little time to work through the subsoil, but this is the hard pan.—*Providence Journal*.

—General Grant's condition has so far improved the past week or two, that he has been able to do two or three hours of work a day on his book, partly by dictation and partly in the revision of proofs. The book is understood to be now practically finished.

—Mr. W. S. Gottsberger, of N. Y., George Ebers's American publisher, has issued a card defending Clara Bell from a charge of inaccurately and inadequately translating the German novelist.

—Mr. Carl Schurz publishes, through the American News Co., a pamphlet upon "The New South," embodying the result of his inquiries and observations during his journey through the Southern States last winter.

¹ From *The Alumni Magazine*, publication of the Alumni of Lincoln University, (for Colored Youth), Penna.

—It is said that great interest is expressed in England in Rev. Phillips Brooks's approaching visit to that country, and it is expected that there will be a tremendous rush to hear him when he preaches at Cambridge University on June 14.

—Rev. E. Pan Jones, a Welsh clergyman and editor, who has been spending a vacation in this country, is going home to defend a suit for libel, brought by Lord Penrhyn. Two quarrymen at Bethesda, North Wales, caught a salmon in the river Ogwen, were arrested for poaching and sentenced to six months' imprisonment. On their release they found that Lord Penrhyn, who owned the river bed where they caught the salmon and also the quarry where they had worked, had ordered that they should not be reemployed, and had further served notice on one of them, a man of family, to quit his house at once. This abominable sequence of events was commented upon as it deserved by editor Jones in his paper, the *Celt*, and he even expressed a hope that the people of Bethesda would refuse to occupy the house and that it might become a ruin with no one to rebuild it. In all probability this expression of Mr. Jones's had its effect, for while it was published February 27, it was not until April 4 that a retraction and an apology were demanded by Penrhyn's lawyer. Editor Jones immediately offered to withdraw any false statement or exaggeration, but the only answer he received was the notice of an action for libel, which he got just on the eve of sailing for this country.

—Concerning the people of the Hudson's Bay region, Mr. J. Macdonald Oxley, in an article in the *Popular Science Monthly* for June, says: "We come now to Lieutenant Gordon's observations upon the natural history of the country, and first of all as to its human inhabitants. These are very scanty, and, with the exception of a few white men at the traders' posts, are solely Eskimos. On the north side of the strait they are quite familiar with the ways of white men, and seem to be highly pleased with the prospect of increased intercourse with them. Occasionally one is met who has mastered the English tongue, but not often. Many others understand well enough what is said to them in that language, although they cannot be persuaded to speak it. They are particularly fond of any article of civilized clothing, and the head-man at North Bluff manifested no small pride at the possession of a stand-up linen collar, which he displayed to the utmost advantage. In character they are docile, amiable, and willing to work. When landing the stores and coal at North Bluff they worked all day along with the men, carrying heavy

weights up over the rocks, and toiling away as cheerily and heartily as could be desired, asking no other remuneration than biscuits, of which commodity they are inordinately fond. These people have no farinaceous food of any kind, and, as a consequence, the children are not weaned until they reach the age of three or four years. The families are small, there rarely being more than two or three children, and, although early marriages are the rule, their numbers must be diminishing, because signs of their presence were met with everywhere, while the people themselves were found at only three places along the straits, and there are only some five or six families known to be between Cape Chudleigh and Nachvak. Along the Labrador coast the Eskimos gather in small settlements around the Moravian mission-stations. Nain is considered the largest settlement, and its Eskimo population does not exceed two hundred souls. Those at the stations are all educated, being able to read and write in their own language, and, according to the missionaries, are regular attendants at church, and very fond of music—two excellent and hopeful traits certainly."

—The latest report of the American Iron and Steel Association, just issued by Mr. Cope, the secretary, brings out very strongly the facts which show that the change since 1880 has been a revolution in the character of fuel used. More iron was produced in 1884 than in 1880 by 294,199 tons. But the quantity of charcoal iron made decreased 79,140 tons, and the quantity of anthracite iron made decreased 221,198 tons, while there was an increase of 594,537 tons in the quantity made with bituminous coal and coke. Moreover, even in the making of what is classed as anthracite iron, a large quantity of coke is now used, and the change within the past year has been remarkable. In 1883 there were made 965,454 tons of iron with anthracite coal alone, and in the year 1884 there were so made only 246,570 tons of iron—about one-eighteenth of the entire production. Most of the anthracite iron is now made with a mixture of fuel averaging about two-thirds coal and one-third coke.

—The monument erected in the City Park of Reading, Pa., to Frederick Lauer, by the Brewers' Association of the United States, was unveiled on Saturday afternoon. There was a parade, including the various German and other civic societies, and the Councilmen. The dedicatory programme embraced music, prayer, and oration by H. H. Reuter, and addresses by Jacob Conrad and Mayor Getz. The monument is altogether 16 feet high, with a life-sized bronze statue of the deceased brewer, and cost \$7000.



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